

3/9/2011

Testimony regarding SB165:

By : Tom Storey, VP/Director of Government Affairs & Community Relations

1. The MCA Detroit Human Resource Department is currently exploring with both the Michigan Economic Development Corporation and various City of Detroit departments – the feasibility of developing a Trade Line Project Labor Agreement for the mechanical trades (plumbers, pipefitters, electrical and sheet metal).

The purpose is to significantly increase the rate of employment among Detroit Residents and minorities in life-long careers on both public and privately financed construction, alteration, repair and improvement projects in Southeast Michigan.

2. Apprentices are paid approximately \$250,000 in wages and benefits to go to school and work for five years.
3. Depending on economic conditions, Journeymen can make \$100,000 yearly in wages and benefits.
4. After working 30 years as a Journeyman, can retire with a one million dollar pension on top of social security.
5. Upon graduation from the five-year Apprenticeship Program, can receive 30-38 college credits toward an Associate Degree of Applied Science from local community colleges.
6. Future career options for Journeymen include: Purchasing, sales manager, project manager, estimator, etc.
7. Detroit residents and minorities can work for any contractor, on any job, in Southeast Michigan.